

**Minutes of the Fifteenth Regular Meeting
For the Twenty-Sixth Highland Town Council
Monday, August 25, 2008**

Study Session. The Twenty-Sixth Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in a study session preceding the regular meeting on Monday, August 25, 2008 at 6:30 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the meeting chambers of the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

Silent Roll Call: Councilors Bernie Zemen, Mark Herak, Dan Vassar, Brian Novak and Konnie Kuiper were present. The Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

General Substance of Matters Discussed.

1. The Town Council discussed the agenda of the imminent meeting.
2. The Town Council discussed Ordinance 1404, and the prospect of permitting alcohol in the Main Square Park, generally, and for the Chamber of Commerce in particular as part of its fall event, the Zest Fest. The discussion included some councilors raising objections to the practice of allowing beer tents in the parks as well as in the public ways. Other councilors suggested that permitting beer tents could provide ways and means to capture added revenues for the Parks and Recreation as well as general government. Reservations were expressed about amending the Park code to permit limited alcohol sales by the Chamber of Commerce or any other group.

The study session ended at 7:00 O'clock p.m.

Regular Meeting. The Twenty Fifth Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in its regular session on Monday, August 25, 2008 at 7:05 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the plenary meeting chambers of the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

The Town Council President Bernie Zemen presided and the Town Clerk-Treasurer was present to memorialize the proceedings.

The session was opened with Councilor Brian Novak leading the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag and the Rev. Arthur Burkman offering a prayer.

Roll Call: Present on roll call were Councilors Bernie Zemen, Mark Herak, Dan Vassar, Brian Novak and Konnie Kuiper. The Town Clerk-Treasurer Michael Griffin was present. A quorum was attained.

Additional Officials Present: Rhett L. Tauber, Attorney at Law.; John M. Bach, Public Works Director; Peter T. Hojnicky, Metropolitan Police Chief; Alex M. Brown, CPRP; and Cecile Petro, Redevelopment Director.

Ed Dabrowski of the Park and Recreation Board; Karen Ziants, Lisa Gauthier and Laurel Roach of the Community Events Commission were present.

Minutes of the Previous Session

The minutes of the regular meeting of August 11, 2008 were approved by general consent.

Special Orders:

1. **Public Hearing:** On the matter of Granting Tax abatement, for a period not to exceed 10 years, to Petitioners Mr. Terry Trusgnich of Aide Rentals and Sales II, 2716-2726 Garfield Street, Highland, for construction of a new building at the current site, bringing \$350,000 in new assessed value.
 - (a) Attorney verification of proof of publication. The Town Attorney indicated that the proofs of publication were in compliance with IC 5-3-1
 - (b) Public Hearing. The Town Council President called the meeting to order. The Redevelopment Director offered a brief presentation on the terms of the proposed Tax abatement to cover the construction of a new building at Aide Rentals. There were no other comments written or spoken.
 - (c) Consideration of **Resolution No. 2008-36:** A Resolution Confirming Terms and Conditions Applicable to an Application for a Property Tax Abatement for construction of a new building added at 2716-2726 Garfield Street. Councilor Kuiper moved the passage and adoption of Resolution No. 2008-36. Councilor Vassar seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The resolution was adopted.

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-36**

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO AN APPLICATION FOR A
PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BUILDING AT 2716-2726 GARFIELD AVENUE**

Applicant: Mr. Terry Trusgnich d/b/a Aide Rentals and Sales II

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 6-1.1-12.1 et seq.; amended, (the "Act") allows a partial abatement of property taxes attributable to "Redevelopment" or "Rehabilitation" activities in "Economic Revitalization Areas" as those terms are defined in the Act, and

WHEREAS, Property tax abatement, if approved, is applied as a deduction in the increase in assessed value that results from investment in new construction or rehabilitation of property; and

WHEREAS, On May 14, 2007, the Highland Town Council adopted Resolution No. 2007-23 designating an Economic Revitalization Area co-terminus with the Redevelopment Area; and

WHEREAS, On June 25, 2007, the Highland Town Council passed Ordinance 1359 designating an Economic Development Target Area co-terminus with the Economic Revitalization Area and the Redevelopment Area; and

WHEREAS, An application for property tax abatement for construction of a new building to be located on premises legally described as:

Parcel #1—The West 100 feet of the East 420 feet of the North 115 feet of Block 12 and
Parcel #2—The North 115 feet of the West 176 feet of the East 320 feet of Block 12;
a/k/a 2716-2726 Garfield Avenue (the "Real Estate" legally described at Exhibit A) was received from Mr. Terry Trusgnich d/b/a Aide Rentals and Sales II, a copy of which is attached and incorporated herein by reference at Exhibit B.

Both parcels are within the original Town of Highland Plat Book 1, Page 86 of the Recorder's office of the Lake County, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Said application proposes construction of a new \$350,000 building that would bring four new jobs to Highland for a total of thirteen jobs with an estimated \$382,000 annual payroll that may not proceed but for approval of tax abatement by the Town Council; and

WHEREAS, \$113,900 is the most recent assessed value of the property that is the subject of this resolution, a value assessed before improvements on the premises were added by the applicant; and

WHEREAS, \$463,900 is the estimated assessed value of the property upon completion of the Project; and

WHEREAS, The Real Estate is located within a Redevelopment Area, an Economic Revitalization Area, and an Economic Development Target Area within the Town of Highland; and

WHEREAS, The Act empowers the Town Council to approve a deduction as percentage of the increase in assessed value that results from investments in new construction or rehabilitation of property by following a hearing and confirmation of a Preliminary Resolution, provision of a public notice at least ten days before the date of a public hearing, conducting a public hearing and confirmation of a Final Resolution; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council adopted Resolution 2008-30 fixing 7:00 PM, Monday, August 25, 2008 in the Council Chambers, Highland Town Hall, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana, as the time and place for a public hearing for receiving testimony, remonstrances and objections from persons interested in or affected by the proposed application for tax abatement and directed the publication of notice of said hearing in accordance with the requirements of applicable law and notice was published ten days prior to the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Town of Highland has heretofore established a Redevelopment Area, an Economic Revitalization Area, and an Economic Development Target Area consistent with its guidelines to create a positive image for the town through well designed, high quality development; increase jobs and generate tax revenues through new development; encourage development of business opportunities for all; encourage private investment along the corridor; enhance district neighborhoods through increased well planned economic opportunities; and to aid in the elimination of incomplete or inappropriate land uses; and

WHEREAS, Real estate located at 2716-2726 Garfield Avenue, Highland, Indiana continues to be undesirable for, or impossible for, normal development and occupancy because of a lack of development, cessation of growth, deterioration of improvements or character of occupancy, age, obsolescence, substandard buildings, or other factors that have impaired values of or prevent a normal development of property or use of property, and/or such real estate includes a facility or group of facilities that are technologically, economically, or energy obsolete and which such obsolescence may lead to a decline in employment and tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, In considering the application and statement of benefits submitted by the petitioner, the Town Council has considered the effective utilization of vacant urban land, the stabilization and conservation of neighborhoods, the rehabilitation and replacement of obsolete and deteriorated structures, improvements to the physical appearance of the Town, effective utilization of energy, avoidance of environmental harm and increases in employment and assessed value of property located within the Town; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council now desires to affirmatively act upon the application for tax abatement from Mr. Terry Trusgnich d.b.a. Aide Rentals and Sales II, a petitioner who seeks to invest, redevelop and rehabilitate property located at 2716-2726 Garfield Avenue, a property located in the established Redevelopment Area, an Economic Revitalization Area, and an Economic Development Target Area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FOUND, DETERMINED AND RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Highland as follows:

Section 1. Having reviewed the designation application and statement of benefits as filed by the petitioner, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1 et seq., and having conducted a public hearing on August 25, 2008 regarding this matter, the Town Council as the designating body for the Town of Highland hereby makes the following findings and determinations, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-3(b):

(A) That the Town Council finds and determines in the affirmative that the estimate of the value of the redevelopment or rehabilitation project located at **2716-2726 Garfield Avenue, Highland, Indiana** consisting of construction of a \$350,000 building, yielding an estimated final assessed value of **\$463,900**, representing an estimated **\$350,000** increase over the current assessed value of **\$113,900** is reasonable for projects of this nature;

(B) That the Town Council finds and determines in the affirmative that the estimate of four individuals who will be employed and the nine individuals whose employment will be retained, for a total of thirteen jobs, can be reasonably expected to result from the proposed redevelopment and rehabilitation;

(C) That the Town Council finds and determines in the affirmative that the estimate of a \$382,000 annual payroll with average salaries of \$30,000 per year for those individuals who will be employed or whose employment will be retained can be reasonably expected to result from the proposed described redevelopment or rehabilitation;

(D) That the Town Council finds and determines in the affirmative that all other benefits about which information was requested are benefits that can be reasonably expected to result from the proposed described redevelopment or rehabilitation;

(F) That the Town Council finds and determines in the affirmative that the totality of benefits from the increased private investment by the applicant within the Economic Revitalization Area and Economic Development Target Area is sufficient to justify the deduction authorized by this resolution.

Section 2. That Resolution 2008-30 adopted by the Town Council on July 28, 2008 is hereby confirmed and the application for **property tax abatement** upon the *increase in assessed value* in consequence of construction of a new building located at 2716-2726 Garfield Avenue, which is the subject of this resolution, is hereby approved for a period of time **not to exceed 10 calendar years**, according to the schedule in IC 6-1.1-12.1-4(d)(10), subject to continuing compliance with the statement of benefits, IC 6-1.1-12.1 et seq., and the terms of this resolution;

Abatement application on file (Exhibit B)

2. **Ceremony:** Administration of Oath of Office for Police Officer Candidate **Santos M. Cortez**. Police Officer Candidate Cortez was appointed by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners at its meeting of 14 August 2008, with the appointment to be effective 24th of August 2008.
 - (a) Action by Town Council determining that the named Candidate Meets the Qualifications for such position, as Determined by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners and as now approved by the Highland Town Council. Councilor Herak moved that it be determined that the named candidate meets the qualifications for such position, with such qualifications being determined by the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners and now approved by the Town Council. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The candidate was found to be qualified.
 - (b) *Administration of Oath.* The Town Clerk-Treasurer offered a narrative regarding the nature of the oath taking and its meaning and administered the oath, to which the candidate swore.
 - (c) **Joint** Presentation of Badge. The metropolitan police chief presented officer Cortez his badge. Officer Cortez introduced his family who were in attendance.
3. **Annual Independence Day Parade Participant Awards:** Representatives of the Community Events Commission will announce and present the awards as determined by the Parade Judges, from July 3, 2008.

Ms. Laurel Roach announced the following awards and presented trophies to representatives present.

Floats 1 st place:	United States Steel
Floats 2 nd place:	PUC Purdue University Calumet
Commercial 1 st place:	Ultra Foods
Commercial 2 nd place:	Jedi's Garden
Non-Commercial 1 st place:	Hospice of NWI
Non-Commercial 2 nd place:	Highland Lion's Club
Youth Groups 1 st place:	4-H Clubs
Youth Groups 2 nd place:	Highland Babe Ruth Woods
Best decorated vehicle 1 st place:	UBM Mexican Court
Best decorated vehicle 2 nd place:	Next Generation DJ
Miscellaneous 1 st place:	Sweet Adeline's
Miscellaneous 2 nd place:	Incredible Pulp Highland Chamber of Commerce
Bands 1 st place:	Highland High School
Bands 2 nd place:	Lew Wallace High School
Director's Award:	Hammond Tech Tigers

Comments from the Public for Topics on the Agenda

This portion of the Town Council Meeting is reserved for persons who desire to address the Town Council. Depending on the nature of the comments, the Town Council may direct the staff to address the topic or follow-up on matters that may arise from public comments. Persons addressing the Town Council are requested to limit their presentations to **three (3) minutes** and to try to avoid repetitious comments.

There were no comments.

Communications:

1. The Clerk-Treasurer read a letter from John Casassa requesting a waiver and refund of delinquencies associated with a improvement assessment from the Brantwood General Improvement District.

(a) Works Board Order No 2008-19: An Order of the Works Board Finding AND Determining Certain Special Circumstances sufficient TO permit the Refund or Reimbursement of Certain Interest AND Penalties FOR Assessments Associated with the Branton General Improvement District in the amount of 126.00 paid by Mr. John S. Casassa. Councilor Vassar moved the passage and adoption of the Works Board Order. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The works board order was adopted.

THE TOWN of HIGHLAND ORDER OF the WORKS BOARD NO. 2008-19

AN ORDER FINDING and DETERMINING CERTAIN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES SUFFICIENT to PERMIT the REFUND OR REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN INTEREST and PENALTIES for ASSESSMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH A GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, ALL UNDERTAKEN PURSUANT TO IC 36-9-17; IC 36-9-36 and IC 36-9-37

Whereas, Pursuant to IC 36-1-2-24, the Town Council for the Town of Highland is the Works Board of the Municipality and as such provides through its street division of the Public Works Department for the construction and maintenance of Streets, Sidewalks and curbs;

Whereas, Pursuant to Ordinance No. 1084, adopted on March 23, 1998, the Town has established a Municipal General Improvement Fund to provide monies to construct, repair, reconstruct or improve certain streets, alleys, sidewalks, curbs, gutters and sewers within the Town, according to the provisions set forth in IC 36-9-17 et seq.;

Whereas, The Town of Highland has undertaken a series of public improvement projects in which the cost for curb and sidewalk replacement has been ordered paid by the adjoining property owners based upon front footage of their property through a special assessment pursuant to the special general improvement statutes and has particularly financed the portion of the cost of such projects relating to reconstruction of curbs and sidewalks (each such portion of a project, an "Improvement") through the Municipal General Improvement Fund, all pursuant to IC 36-9-17, IC 36-9-36 and IC 36-9-37;

Whereas, From time to time in the course of employing this method of production and financing of public improvements, some adjoining property owners subject to the assessments duly imposed and fixed, experience compliance delay or default as defined in the Improvement statutes but present sufficiently extenuating circumstances that appeal to the works board to mitigate the ordinary policy objects and purposes associated with assessment collection and enforcement, supporting the waiver and release or REIMBURSEMENT of penalties and fees in those cases;

Whereas, The Town of Highland levied an assessment against Lot ____ Block 11, Second Addition to Brantwood Subdivision, Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana a/k/a 8837 Branton Avenue to recover costs for curbs and sidewalks installed during the 2005-2006 construction season;

Whereas, The property was vacant as the homeowner, John Casassa (Sr.) was admitted to a nursing home since early 2006, was deceased in March of 2008 and the homeowner's, sole child, John S. Casassa (Jr.), while residing in Louisiana, has been handling the affairs, and there was a temporary forwarding problem with the United States Postal Service, thereby making notices of payment due untimely, and notices were returned as undeliverable;

Whereas, John S. Casassa, (Jr.) the son of the now deceased homeowner paid off the assessment, including late fees and interest on August of 2008; and

Whereas, The Highland Town Council, acting as the Works Board of the Town, having received an appeal from a property owner subject to the assessments duly imposed and fixed, who has experienced compliance delay or default as defined in the Improvement statutes and such appeal having asserted certain circumstances supporting the partial waiver and release of penalties and fees in those cases now desires to authorize, approve and order such waivers and releases or a reimbursement of fees paid,

Now Therefore Be it hereby Ordered by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana:

Section 1. That the Town Council now finds and determines:

- (a) That the property of the late **John Casassa (Sr.)** is subject to assessments duly imposed and fixed for the Branton Avenue General Improvement District for a property commonly identified as 8837 Branton Avenue, Highland;
- (b) That **his son, John S. Casassa (Jr.)**, having experienced compliance delay or default as defined in the Improvement statutes, has fully paid the principal amount of the assessments for the lot improved as well as associated penalties and interest, such penalties and interest paid in the amount of \$126.00; and,
- (c) That **, John S. Casassa (Jr.)**, has asserted certain circumstances supporting the reimbursement of penalties and fees associated with the terms of the Branton Avenue General Improvement District and hereby orders the reimbursement of such fees and late charges as follows:
 - (1) That penalties and late fees in the amount of \$126.00 is hereby deemed waived leaving no further penalty still due and owing;
 - (2) That Clerk-Treasurer be hereby authorized and instructed to reimburse **John S. Casassa (Jr.)**, **316 Rosedown Way, Mandeville, LA 70471**, in the amount of \$126.00 from the proper fund, subject to law and necessary documentation;

Section 3. That the Town Council now finds and determines that the interest of goodwill is served in making this order and that the Clerk-Treasurer has fully complied with the collection duties associated with these improvement assessments, pursuant to the provisions set out in IC 36-9-36 and IC 36-9-37 and is hereby directed to take all such steps to carry-out the objects and purposes of this order, including the release of any related liens held in the name of the Town of Highland upon satisfaction of any outstanding assessment balances.

Be it So Ordered.

DULY, PASSED, ADOPTED and ORDERED by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board, this 25th day of August 2008 having passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**WORKS BOARD of the TOWN of
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

Bernie Zemen, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

2. The clerk-treasurer read a letter from Bill Vargo reporting his resignation from the Community events Commission, owing to time conflicts and constraints. *No further action is necessary once filed with appointing authority, the Town Council as Municipal Legislative Body, pursuant to IC 5-8-4-4 and IC 5-8-3.5-1(5).*

Unfinished Business and General Orders:

1. **Works Board Order No. 2008-20:** An Order of the Works Board Adopting and Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Sandridge Audubon Society for the of Erecting Educational Signs Along the Trail that passes by the Great Blue Heron Rookery in Highland.

Councilor Novak moved the passage and adoption of Works Board Order No. 2008-19. Councilor Vassar seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The order was adopted.

**Town of Highland
Board of Works
Order of the Works Board 2008-20**

**AN ORDER OF THE WORKS BOARD ADOPTING AND APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
WITH THE SANDRIDGE AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR THE OF ERECTING EDUCATIONAL SIGNS ALONG THE
TRAIL THAT PASSES BY THE GREAT BLUE HERON ROOKERY IN HIGHLAND**

Whereas, The Town Council for the Town of Highland is the Works Board of the Municipality pursuant to IC 36-1-2-24(3);

Whereas, The Sandridge Audubon Society, Inc., has been in continuing dialog with the Town regarding its desire to conserve and protect an area, a wetland, in the northeast part of the Town in which Great Blue Herons have been nesting, rendering the area to be a rookery;

Whereas, The Sandridge Audubon Society, Inc., further expressed its desire to allow for improved signage and way finding to support responsible bird watching and enjoyment by interested persons of the rookery, toward that end, the society has applied for a grant to support the acquisition and design of signs for that purpose;

Whereas, The Sandridge Audubon Society, Inc., seeks to have an expression of consent and cooperation from the Town of Highland, supporting the society's efforts and consenting to place and install any signs that may be obtained in consequence of this project, and has presented a memorandum of understanding for the consideration of the Town;

Whereas, IC 36-1-4-7 provides the power to make contracts or agreements is among the powers that may be exercised by the Town; and

Whereas, The Town Council now desires to accept and approve the memorandum of understanding as presented by the Sandridge Audubon Society, Inc., pursuant to the terms stated herein,

Now Therefore Be it Ordered by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board, as follows:

Section 1. That the memorandum of understanding, prepared and presented by Sandridge Audubon Society, Inc., which includes particular areas of collaboration, in which the Town and the Society "partner" to erect four signs related to the Great Heron Rookery, according to the written terms set forth in the proposal, is hereby accepted, approved and adopted in every respect, and attached as an **exhibit** to this order;

Section 2. That the Town Council President is authorized to execute all documents necessary to implement the Memorandum of Understanding;

Be it so Ordered.

DULY, PASSED and ORDERED by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board, this 25th day of August 2008 having passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

Bernie Zemen, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

EXHIBIT

Memorandum of Understanding

Sand Ridge Audubon Society
And the
Town of Highland, Indiana

This memorandum of understanding is between **Sand Ridge Audubon Society** and the **Town of Highland, Indiana** for the purpose of erecting educational signs along the trail that passes by the Great Blue Heron Rookery.

AREAS OF COLLABORATION

Sand Ridge Audubon Society and the Town of Highland, Indiana will partner to erect four signs.

Sand Ridge Audubon Society accepts responsibility for grant writing, receipt and disbursement of grant funds, and selection and design of the signs.

The Town of Highland, Indiana agrees to accept delivery and ownership of the signs and to have Public Works install them at determined sites along the trail:

- Trailhead sign at Cline Ave.
- Trailhead sign at Kennedy Ave.
- Trailhead sign at end of parking area off Liable Ave. and LaPorte Ave.
- Display sign near the nesting area

In support of the efforts of Sand Ridge Audubon Society and the Town of Highland, Indiana, both organizations will:

- Facilitate the ongoing and productive relationship between the above entities.
- Assist with basic information exchange that serves to clarify goals, requirements, and procedures thereby reducing and eliminating misunderstandings, in order to facilitate maximum collaboration.
- Communicate regularly with key representatives of the two entities to maximize coordination of functions.

REVIEW AND/OR TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

- This agreement may not be terminated during the period covered by the Legacy Foundation Terms of Grant Agreement.
- This Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective once authorized signatures are obtained from official representatives of both parties and shall remain in effect until all signs are properly installed.

TOWN of **HIGHLAND**, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
By its Town Council/Works Board

Bernie Zemen, Town Council President

Date of Adoption by Town Council

SANDRIDGE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
By its Board of Directors

Signature of Proper Officer

Date of Adoption by Board of Directors

2. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1404:** An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 150 of the Municipal Code which provides for a Department of Parks and Recreation and its Governance by a Park and Recreation Board, by repealing it in its entirety and providing for a new Chapter to be Numbered 150, all pursuant to I.C. 36-1-4, IC 36-1-5 and IC 36-10-3 et sequitur. *The amendment if adopted, consolidates and clarifies several amendments already adopted. The ordinance updates provisions regarding the appointment of citizen members to the park board to make it consistent with changes in state law. Formerly appointment authority rested with the Town Council President, but now exists with the Town Council. The ordinance also modifies adopted but unimplemented provisions regarding rule-making by the Park and Recreation Board. The ordinance provides that alcohol use, consumption or vending remains prohibited, but permits special exception permits by the Park Board subject to the approval of the Town Council.*

Councilor Herak introduced and filed the proposed Ordinance No. 1404. There was no further action.

Committee Reports

- **Councilor Mark Herak:** *Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals Liaison • Board of Sanitary Commissioners Liaison • Special Events Advisory Committee, Liaison.*

Councilor Herak reported that the Sanitary District would soon be hosting a briefing with representatives from Chris Burke and Associates to discuss the drainage basin near the Cady Marsh Ditch in the area of Southridge Elementary School.

From the Sanitary District, Councilor Herak reported that the North Drive Pump Station generator has been ordered and should be installed early next year.

A colloquy ensued between and among Councilor Herak, Councilor Kuiper and the Public Works Director regarding the timetable for generator installation at the several pump stations in Town and alternatives to installation of single generators at each station.

Councilor Herak reported through the Public Works Director the progress in clean-up from the recent storm event.

The Public Works Director reported that the Kennedy Avenue Reconstruction Project to be funded in part by Federal Highway Funds, recently was bid by the Indiana Department of Transportation. It was noted that the bids arrived higher than expected. However, the project could proceed.

The Public Works Director discussed the recently discovered high cost of road salt. The ILCA salt buying consortium did award the bid to Morton, noting its increased price owing to scarcity. It was further noted that the cost will be a barrier to purchasing the usual amounts.

It was further noted that the Parks and Recreation Department had filed its joint application with the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission for bike trail money with Munster in the lead to fund linkages of the Highland Bike Trail to Munster.

- **Councilor Dan Vassar:** *Parks and Recreation Board Liaison • Building and Inspection Committee • Plan Commission member.*

Councilor Vassar offered a brief survey of matters that were to be reviewed by the Plan Commission.

Councilor Vassar also noted the vacancy on the plan Commission and encouraged persons interested to apply using the on-line application.

- **Councilor Brian Novak:** *Waterworks Board Liaison • Fire Personnel Committee • Lake County Solid Waste Management District Board of Directors • Insurance committee, member.*

Councilor Novak reported on the progress of the proposed Ethanol from trash vendor selection project.

- **Councilor Konnie Kuiper:** *Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners Liaison • Traffic Safety Commission Member • Chamber of Commerce Liaison.*

Councilor Kuiper reported that he would be attending the Chamber of Commerce Luncheon..

Councilor Kuiper further reported that the Building Commissioner and the Fire Chief were absent owing to National Incident Management (NIMS) training.

- **Councilor Bernie Zemen:** *Town Executive • Police Pension Board of Trustees Chair • Budget Committee Chair • Redevelopment Commission Liaison • Plan Commission member • Insurance Committee, member.*

Council President Zemen reported that the Redevelopment Commission was preparing RFQs to solicit for the position of Master Developer for the Redevelopment District.

Comments from the Public for Matters not on the Agenda

1. Jim Diehl, 10104 Kennedy Avenue, Highland, complimented the apparent increased traffic enforcement in Kennedy Avenue, near his home.

Mr. Diehl, expressed concerns about the public works project at the intersection of Joliet and Junction Street in Schererville and its possible effect in sending greater volumes of storm water toward Highland.

Mr. Diehl, expressed concerns about the effectiveness of the Town of Highland's mosquito control and its mosquito spaying, particularly in the area along the railroad near his home where there is standing water.

2. Carolyn Marsh, of the Sandridge Audubon Society, thanked the Town Council for its adoption of the memorandum of understanding.
3. Dean Stannis, 9324 Spring Creek Drive, Highland, identified himself as a plumber and commented from his experience about the installation of generators for a hospital.
4. Ed Stowe, 3124 Farmer Drive, Highland, commended the Town Council for its assistance with the recent Little League Event at Markley Park.

Payment of Accounts Payable Vouchers. There being no further business from the floor, Councilor Novak moved to allow the accounts payable vouchers as filed on the pending pay docket, covering the period August 12, 2008 through to August 25, 2008. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The accounts payable vouchers were allowed and the clerk-treasurer was authorized to make payment.

General Fund, \$162,676.24 Motor Vehicle Highway and Street (MVH) Fund, \$38,236.78; Local Road and Streets Fund, \$1,535.81; Law Enforcement Continuing Education, Training and Supply Fund, \$130.43; Gasoline Fund, \$1,130.88; Information Communications Technology Fund, \$8,076.40; Special Events Non Reverting Fund, \$1,310.00; Building Acquisition Project Fund, \$127,500.00; Police Pension Fund, \$97.80; Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund, \$216.00; Municipal Cumulative Street Fund, \$2,942.00; Total: \$343,852.34.

Adjournment. Councilor Novak moved that the meeting be adjourned. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a vote, *viva voce*, the motion passed. The regular meeting of the Town Council of Monday, August 25, 2008 was adjourned at 8:17 O'clock p.m.

There was no study session following the meeting.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer